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Director of Central Intelligence

22 July 1948

Assistant Director for ORE

Inquiry concerning Service Airways personnel

Upon further inquiry by this office, it appears that the Department of State has been working actively on this case since 2 July 1948 on the request of Congressman Monroe. The following summary has been furnished to us by the Munitions Division of the Department of State:

"The Department of State received a direct inquiry on this matter in a letter from Congressman Dan Darrow, dated 2 July 1948, addressed to Mrs. Ruth Shipley, Chief of the Passport Division. At about the same time, telegram no. 713-03, dated 3 July 1948, from the Military Attache at Prague, reported the arrival of a plane carrying Mr. Taylor and Mr. Dubay en route to Zatec, Czechoslovakia, a small town about 90 kilometers northwest of Prague. In telegram no. 967, 6 July, to Prague, the Department instructed the Embassy that at the first opportunity the passports of these men should be taken up, validated only for immediate return to the United States, held until arrangements for their return were completed, and upon their departure should be entrusted to a responsible official to hold for delivery to immigration officials in the United States.

"On 8 July, Congressman Darrow was informed that passports had originally been issued to these men to enable them to accept employment with the Schulmann Aviation Company in Munich, that their arrival in Czechoslovakia had been reported and he was advised of the action taken by the Department.

"A second letter from Congressman Darrow enclosing letters received by Mrs. Taylor in the United States, indicated that the men were not being forcibly detained but were unable to arrange for return transportation. Further instructions have been, or are being, transmitted to the Embassy to do everything possible to facilitate the return of these men.

"A second reply to Mr. Darrow will be sent forward today, 22 July, advising him of these additional instructions and suggesting that he advise Mrs. Taylor to advise her husband to get in touch with the Embassy or nearest Consulate.

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